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VAMPIRE GAME
by JUDAL
6
TOKYOPOP

VAMPIRE GAME

Volume 6

by

JUDAL

TOKYOPOP®

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VAMPIRE GAME

The Story Thus Far...

This is the tale of the Vampire King Duzell and his quest for revenge against the good King Phelios, a valiant warrior who slew the vampire a century ago. Now Duzell has returned, reincarnated as a feline foe to deliver woe to... well, that's the problem. Who is the reincarnation of King Phelios?

Duzell and the Princess Ishtar have journeyed to Ci Xeneth to investigate two of Ishtar's relations: her uncle Jened and his daughter Falan. Pretending to be twin siblings named, well, Du and Ishta, Duzell and Ishtar have infiltrated the palace and befriended Illsaide, the Captain of the Guard. Especially Duzell. Mistakenly believing the Vampire King to be of the fairer sex, Illsaide has asked Duzell to be his fiancée, an offer that Duzell has begrudgingly accepted, knowing that it will allow him to get closer to Jened and Falan. Surprisingly, the plan seems to be working. Sneaking a quick taste of Falan's blood, Duzell is able to rule her out as the reincarnated Phelios.

Ishtar, meanwhile, has been doing what she does best—getting into trouble. Wandering into Jened's basement, she's surprised to find a collection of creatures even uglier than her uncle. Diaage, Jened's High Sorcerer, explains that the creatures are used to create Ruelles, magical objects of great power. As the weight of this lesson sinks in, Ishtar's uncertain what she finds more disturbing, the discovery that her uncle is willing to sacrifice living beings to feed his freaky fetish...or the realization that Sidia, the magic sword she's come to depend on, is powered by the souls of Duzell's fallen comrades.

ME?
HALF MONSTER? IT'S A GOOD THING I KNOW YOU'RE JOKING, DIAAGE.
I'M GLAD YOU'RE NOT SERIOUS.
BECAUSE I WOULD HATE TO THINK OF HOW MUCH IT WOULD COST TO GET YOUR ENTRAILS OUT OF LORD JENED'S CARPET.
IF YOU WERE SERIOUS ABOUT ME BEING A MONSTER...
...THAT WOULD MEAN THAT I'M KEEPING A VERY DANGEROUS SECRET.
A SECRET THAT I WOULD DO JUST ABOUT ANYTHING TO PROTECT.
I COULDN'T...
...LET A POWERFUL MAN LIKE YOU LIVE WITH KNOWLEDGE LIKE THAT, NOW COULD I?
吸血遊戯
シーゼス
東領篇
Act.8

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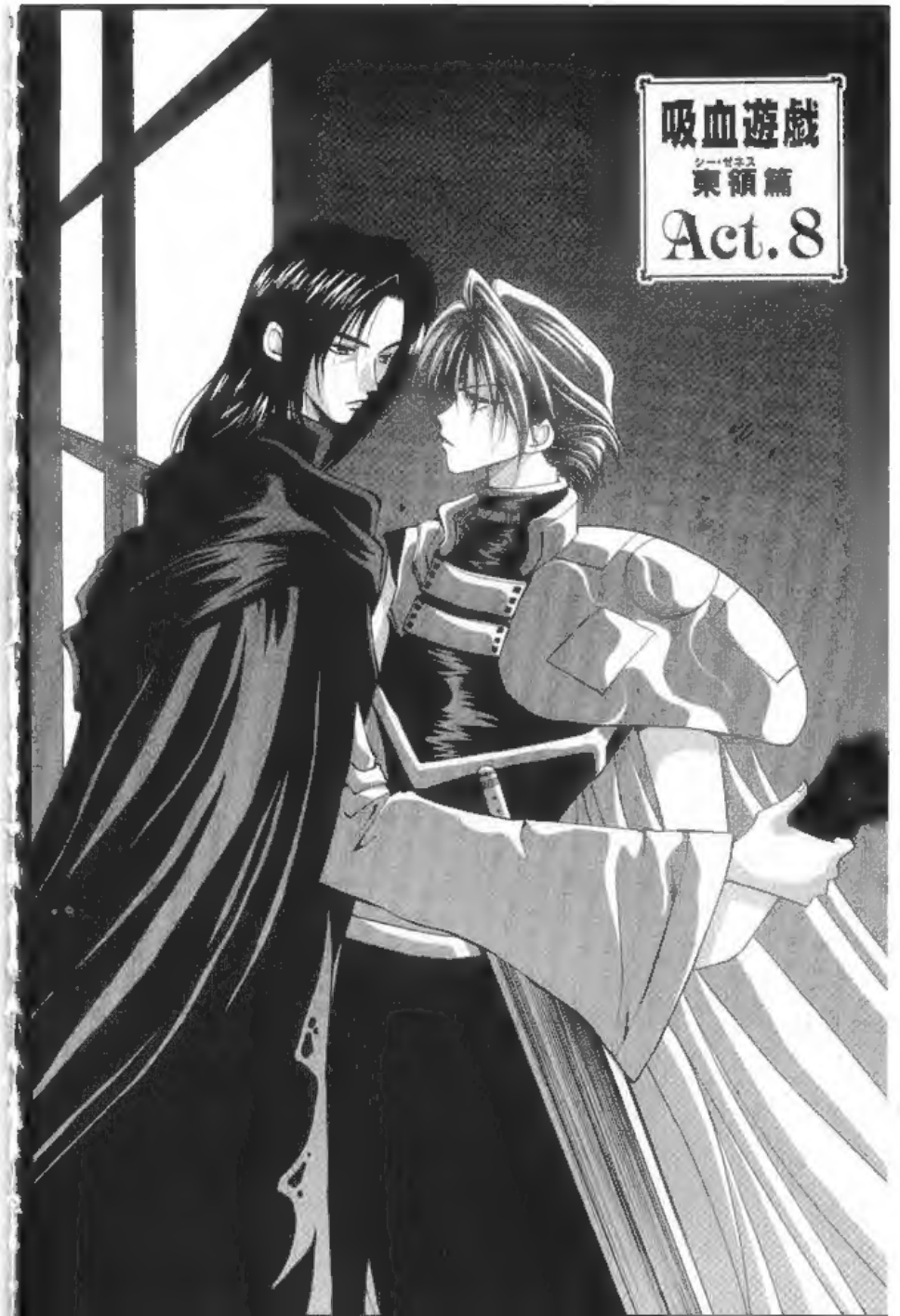
EVERY-
THING
ALL
RIGHT,
CAPTAIN?


吸血遊戯
シーゼネス
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Act.8

WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?
...UNDERSTAND YOU BETTER...
...THAN ANYONE ELSE IN THE KINGDOM.
I'M NOT SURE. THERE IS QUITE A LOT WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT DIAAGE.
.....!!
BUT I WAS SURE THAT NO HUMAN WOULD KNOW THOSE SPELLS.
I'VE BECOME TOO CERTAIN OF MYSELF, AND I'VE GOTTEN SLOPPY AS A RESULT. I NEVER SHOULD HAVE USED HOLY MAGIC IN FRONT OF HIM.

VERY WELL, ILLSAIDE.
LET'S DISCUSS THIS SOME OTHER TIME, SHALL WE?
HOWEVER, LET ME CLEAR UP ANY CONFUSION YOU MIGHT HAVE BEFORE I GO.
IF I'M RIGHT...
...THEN I AM NOT YOUR ENEMY.
AS A MATTER OF FACT...
...I JUST MIGHT...

WHAT'S WITH ALL THE RAIN? EVEN ATLANTIS DOESN'T GET THIS WET!
I JUST MIGHT UNDERSTAND YOU BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE IN THE KINGDOM.
ゴロゴロ
ポン ポン

NOT EVEN AN ARCHMAGE.
GORGEN, IT'S ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT DIAAGE ISN'T HUMAN.
BUT IF HE'S NOT, THEN WHAT IS HE?

A NAP? ALL OF US TOGETHER? WHAT THE HELL IS THIS? PRESCHOOL?
ALL RIGHT! NAPTIME!
OWW!
Ahem...
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM? YOU AND I SHARE A BED ALL THE TIME.
IS IT FALAN?
IS SHE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS SUDDEN STREAK OF MODESTY?
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!
CRANKY, CRANKY... FALAN'S RIGHT, YOU DO NEED A NAP.
FINE, FORGET IT. BUT I'VE STILL GOT TO KEEP OUT OF SIGHT.
SO...

C'MON, ISHTAR!
LET'S GET MOVING! WE'RE HERE ON A MISSION, REMEMBER?
WHISPER
WE'VE GOT TO FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO ABOUT VORD!
AND I STILL NEED TO TRY JENED'S BLOOD!
I KNOW THE BED'S SMALL...
...BUT SINCE WE DIDN'T GET MUCH SLEEP LAST NIGHT...
...I THOUGHT WE COULD ALL TAKE A NAP!
WHAT?!

ARE YOU NUTS?! I'M NOT SEDUCING ANYONE ELSE!
WHISPER WHISPER
...HERE'S THE PLAN. YOU CAN GET CLOSE TO MY UNCLE BY...
ユョユョユョユョ
ULP...
?
BUT I'M SUPPOSED TO BE ENGAGED TO ILLSAIDE, AREN'T I? AND ISN'T HE PRACTICALLY JENED'S SON? THAT WOULD BE LIKE SLEEPING WITH HIS DAUGHTER-IN-LAW!
?
THEN JUST CAST A MEMORY SPELL AND MAKE LIKE A TREE. YOU MIGHT WANT TO CAST ONE ON YOURSELF TOO, THOUGH, 'CUZ...EWW!
WHISPER
THINK ABOUT IT, DUZIE. IT WOULD BE EASY TO TASTE HIS BLOOD IN BED. KNOWING MY UNCLE, HE'D PROBABLY ENJOY IT.

TRUST ME, THE CHANCE TO KNOCK BOOTS WITH ILLSAIDE'S BRIDE-TO-BE WON'T BE PASSED UP.
THAT'S THE POINT.
DUZIE, YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THAT MY UNCLE'S A TOTAL PERV. THE KINKIER SOMETHING IS, THE MORE HE'S INTO IT!
Seduce
Seduce
Seduce
Seduce
Seduce
Seduce
He's not even my type.
HOW AM I GOING TO SEDUCE LORD JENED?
BYE!
AND REMEMBER, SOFT MUSIC, CANDLES, AND LOTS AND LOTS OF VASELINE! HAVE FUN!
FALAN...
DU HAS SOMETHING SHE NEEDS TO DO. SO IT'LL JUST BE US!
すず
OH, OKAY...

I'M STUCK HERE WITH SIR SNEERS-A-LOT, AND DOES ANYONE BOTHER CHECKING IN?
YORD LEFT FOR CI XENETH. NOTHING FROM HIM.
DITTO FOR YUJINN IN MIL SEII
NO WORD AT ALL FROM ASHLEY, YUJINN'S FRIEND IN ZI ALDA.
Mil Seii
La Naan
Ci Xeneth
Phelosta
Zi Alda

AND THE KING OF RAZENIA MISTOOK JILL AND KRAI FOR BANDITS AND HAD THEM TARRED AND FEATHERED.
WHICH, ADMITTEDLY, IS KINDA COOL-- BUT IT DOESN'T HELP US FIND ISHTAR!
DARRES...

La Naan Castle
すた
すたすた
THIS IS RIDICULOUS

I SUPPOSE IT WOULDN'T HURT TO ASK HIM .
OH . SORRY!
WHAT?
STOP PACING. YOU'LL WEAR A HOLE IN THE CARPET.
LAPHIJI ..
I, UH .. I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD HELP ME OUT.
EVERYONE'S BEEN TELLING ME THAT WHEN IT COMES TO MAGIC, YOU'RE THE MAN THAT'S WHAT THEY CALL YOU-- LAPHIJI, THE MAGIC MAN OF LA NAAN
PERSONALLY, I WOULD HURT ANYONE WHO SAID THAT TO MY FACE. HOWEVER, YOUR SKILLS CAN'T BE DENIED
I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD TELL ME...
..HOW MANY MAGICIANS ARE POWERFUL ENOUGH..
..TO EAVESDROP ON US WHEN WE'RE USING THIS MIRROR
You know how much trouble that gave us last time

VORD SAYS LAPHIJI'S THE MOST POWERFUL MAGICIAN IN PHELIOSTA
BUT DAMN IF THE GUY CAN'T CARRY ON A CONVERSATION TO SAVE HIS LIFE
OH... I SEE.
I'M SURE HE'S A FINE MAGICIAN, BUT IF YOU ASK ME, LAPHIJI REALLY SHOULD HAVE BEEN A MIME

HE EXPRESSED HIS ANGER WITH MAGIC
THE AMOUNT OF POWER HE CHANNELED WAS INHUMAN. I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT, BEFORE OR SINCE

MY ABILITIES PALE IN COMPARISON.
THERE'S A VERY POWERFUL SORCERER IN CI XENETH.
WHAT?!
I MEAN, IT COULDN'T HAVE MADE HIM ANY CREEPIER.
ONCE, WHEN LORD JENED CAME FOR A VISIT, HE BROUGHT A YOUNG MAN WITH HIM.
THERE WAS AN ARGUMENT OVER SOMETHING TRIVIAL. LETTING THE BOY EAT WITH US, I THINK HE WASN'T OF NOBLE BLOOD, AND MOTHER WOULDN'T ALLOW HIM AT THE TABLE

...THE KINGDOM OF MERARIM.
ON MOTHER'S ORDERS, I WENT TO MERARIM, TO SEE IF WHAT WE HEARD WAS TRUE.
NOT A BLADE OF GRASS WAS LEFT ALIVE I SERIOUSLY DOUBT ANYTHING WILL EVER GROW THERE AGAIN
MERARIM WAS ONCE A PROUD NATION, THE PEOPLE STRONG AND UNITED
NOW IT'S A DESERT THE ENTIRE KINGDOM'S BEEN ERASED
.....!!

REALLY? THAT POWERFUL? AND YOU SAY HE WAS A YOUNG MAN?
WHAT WAS HIS NAME?
CAPTAIN ILLSAIDE OF THE KNIGHTS OF CI XENETH.
RUMOR HAS IT HE SINGLE-HANDEDLY ANNIHILATED

THERE ARE NO SABOTEURS LEFT IN MERARIM.
IN FACT, THERE IS HARDLY ANY MERARIM AT ALL. I MADE CERTAIN OF THAT
BUT THESE MONSTERS COULDN'T BE ACTING ON THEIR OWN, ILLSAIDE SOMETHING MUST BE PROVOKING THEM
YES, YOU DID.
THAT THING LAST NIGHT WAS SOME SORT OF WATER MONSTER AND YOU KNOW WATER MONSTERS, THEY'RE SO SKITTISH

.....
MY LORD, THESE MONSTER ATTACKS ARE NOT THE WORK OF MERARIM SABOTEURS.

MY LORD!
IF I MAY MAKE A SUGGESTION WE COULD USE WARDING MAGIC
MOST WARDING SPELLS WILL KEEP ALL BUT THE STRONGEST MONSTERS OUT OF THE VILLAGES
IF YOU ASK ME, THE FACT THAT THERE ARE NO LEGSARAM CHARMS N THE CASTLE S NOTHING SHORT OF SUICIDE
MY LORD, PLEASE CONSIDER THE SAFETY OF PRINCESS FALAN--
ENOUGH
WE'VE DISCUSSED THIS BEFORE, GORGEN.
BUT THAT BEAST LAST NIGHT
..FOUGHT WITH THE FEROCITY OF THE DEVIL HIMSELF
AND THAT'S TO SAY NOTHING OF THE LILKE THAT DAMN NEAR KILLED ROY
THERE'S SOME STRANGE MAGIC AT WORK HERE WHAT DO YOU THINK IS GOING ON..
ILLSAIDE?

YOU'RE STILL HERE, GORGEN.
MY LORD, THERE'S SOMETHING I SHOULD TELL YOU
IGNORE ANY OTHER MONSTER PROBLEMS
NO, WE CAN HANDLE THIS.
DOUBLE PATROLS INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE CASTLE I'M HOLDING BOTH OF YOU PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY BREACHES IN SECURITY
NOW, GO
IT'S OUT OF THE QUESTION.
MAGIC WOULD FRIGHTEN ALL THE MONSTERS AWAY AND WITHOUT MONSTERS, I CANNOT MAKE MY RUELLES.
ABSOLUTELY NOT

DAMMIT! THIS ISN'T RIGHT! I NEED TO HELP THE POOR LILKE.
ISHTAR, ARE YOU AWAKE?
AND HE'D HAVE GOOD REASON TO! IT IS PRETTY FREAKY. I JUST HOPE NO OTHER OBJECTS ARE MADE OUT OF MONSTER PARTS.
OKAY, I'M SERIOUSLY WIGGING OUT OVER MY TOOTHBRUSH NOW.

IF DUZIE KNEW THAT VAMPIRES--VAMPIRES FROM HIS OWN CLAN, NO LESS--WERE USED TO MAKE RUELLES...

HUH?
WILL YOU DO THAT FOR ME?
AND THE SAME GOES...
...FOR ILLSAIDE.
I KNOW THEY HAVE THE R FAULTS, BUT OTHER THAN YOU, THEY'RE ALL I HAVE AND F IT CAME DOWN TO T, I WOULD GLADLY GIVE MY LIFE N THE R PLACE
PROMISE?
FALAN.
.....
.....?
ISHTAR...
WILL YOU DO SOMETHING FOR ME?
IT'S GOT TO BE WAY PAST NOON.
THAT WAS A GOOD NAP!
I NEED YOU TO PROMISE...
.THAT EVEN IF .
..MY FATHER DID SOMETHING ABSOLUTELY HORRIBLE TO YOU..
...YOU WOULDN'T KILL HIM.

BUT I CAN'T CHANGE THE WORLD TO SUIT ME...
IF I COULD, I'D MAKE IT A CRIME TO HURT VAMPIRES AND KYAWLS JUST TO KEEP DUZIE SAFE.
...CAN I?
OH!
ISHTAR!
SORRY, VORD! CAN'T CHAT RIGHT NOW. I'M SURE YOU UNDERSTAND!

IF THEY'RE IMPORTANT TO YOU, THEN THEY'RE IMPORTANT TO ME
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I'VE NEVER HAD ANY PROBLEMS MAKING PROMISES. IT'S KEEPING THEM THAT OFTEN PROVES CHALLENGING
OF COURSE.
GREAT! SO YOU PROMISE?

吸血遊戯
東領篇（シーザス）
Act.9

...AND A STORM LIKE THIS IS JUST ENOUGH TO RENEW A SOUL AS OLD AS MINE
YES, RAIN MORE RAIN.
LET THE WORLD BE DROWNED IN A TORRENT OF TEARS!
FOR RAIN IS THE SOURCE OF OUR SPIRIT...

THEY ARRIVE...
...AND THE LIVES OF OUR ENEMY TO YOUR MERCY!

ENOUGH OF THIS "STRONG, SILENT TYPE" BUSINESS YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO TALK, SO TALK!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
.....
OH! UM. HEY, THERE!

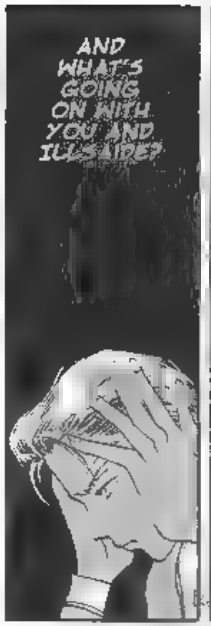
DU, WHATEVER HAPPENS, I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW .I'D GIVE MY LIFE TO PROTECT YOU.
PROTECT ME?
WAIT, I REMEMBER...
DU, I'D GIVE MY LIFE TO PROTECT YOU.
HAVEN'T I HEARD THIS BEFORE?
WAIT A MINUTE...
I'M SUPPOSED TO BE SEDUCING JENED RIGHT NOW!

THANK YOU.
GIVE ME ENOUGH TIME..
..AND I'M SURE I'LL BE ABLE TO FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU.
WHAT?!
THIS IS RIDICULOUS. I'M BLUSHING! VAMPIRES DON'T BLUSH!
"IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU'RE A BOY OR A GIRL."
"ILLSAIDE LIKES YOU, AND THAT'S THAT!"
SEE, THAT'S THE PROBLEM. ALL THIS CROSS-DRESSING HAS LEFT ME A BIT CONFUSED. I DON'T KNOW WHAT I AM.
I'M A VAMPIRE WITH A WOMAN'S FACE AND A MAN'S BODY AND SOMETIMES, IN MY MORE HUMBLE MOMENTS, I TURN INTO A CAT.
IT'S PROBABLY NOT IN MY BEST INTEREST TO SEDUCE ANYONE, BUT WHAT THE HELL.

WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?!
.....

WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW?

HMM...
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT HERE


AND WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOU AND ILLS LIDE?

WHY DO I NEED TO WAIT, ISHTAR?

SHE COULDN'T HAVE FORGOTTEN ABOUT HIM SO QUICKLY
I THOUGHT ISHTAR WAS ALL INTO DARRES
Could she?

HELL, THAT GIRL'LL FLIRT WITH ANYTHING THAT HAS TWO LEGS, A PULSE, AND A NICE SET OF ABS OF COURSE, SHE COULD!

SHE WHAT?!
LET ME TALK TO DARRES..
LAPHIJIP
I HAVE THE ANSWER RIGHT HERE IN MY POCKET! I CAN'T BELIEVE I FORGOT ABOUT YUJINN'S MIRROR, BUT THEN AGAIN, I'M NOT SURPRISED
GORGEOUS MEN LIKE MYSELF DON'T USUALLY CARRY MIRRORS AROUND! I'D SPEND SO MUCH TIME LOOKING INTO THE DAMN THING, THAT I'D NEVER GET ANYTHING DONE
WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU'LL BE ABLE TO FALL IN LOVE WITH ME?
AAARGH!
BLAST THAT SPOILED LITTLE BRAT! WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?
YOU HAVE MY WORD
TOMORROW MORNING, I'LL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING
WHISPER WHISPER
BUT TRY AND FOLLOW ME, AND I'LL TURN THAT BLONDE RUG OF YOURS INTO DUZIE'S NEW BED GOT IT?
WAIT A SECOND!
.....!

I HAVE TO FIND SOMEBODY ELSE, SO SHE CAN MOVE ON WITH HER LIFE.
WHAT?!
YES, BUT I'M NOT ROYALTY.
CAN'T YOU TELL THE GIRL'S HEAD OVER HEELS FOR YOU?
YOU DO LOVE FALAN!
WELL, THEN, WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS TO HER?
THAT'S IT?!
YOU'RE TOSSING AWAY TRUE LOVE BECAUSE YOU'RE WORKING-CLASS?!

UMM. THIS IS SO COMPLICATED I WAS PLANNING ON.
YOU'RE NOT IN LOVE WITH ME NOW?
FALAN, ON THE OTHER HAND..
I'M N A VERY DANGEROUS SITUATION, BUT I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANY DANGER TO YOU. WELL, THERE'S A LITTLE, BUT NOTHING YOU CAN'T HANDLE
.....
WHAT ABOUT FALAN?

I DON'T GET IT.
IT TOOK ME A LONG TIME TO REALIZE..
AND EVEN LONGER TO ACCEPT.
BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE.
ALL THAT MATTERS TO ME IS FALAN. I WANT HER TO BE HAPPY
I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE
EVEN IF OTHER PEOPLE GET HURT IN THE PROCESS.
SHE'S ALL I CARE ABOUT.

PHELIOS' FATHER WAS A PETTY NOBLEMAN WHO WAS THE SON OF AN OIL-SELLER
YOU'RE THE HERO OF CI XENETH!
THE PEOPLE LOVE YOU! YOU'RE EVEN LORD JENED'S FAVORITE--
FAVORITE WHAT?
I'M HIS FAVORITE TOOL. A PRIZED RUELLE. HIS TOY.
AND HIS PROUDEST ACCOMPLISH-MENT
.....!!

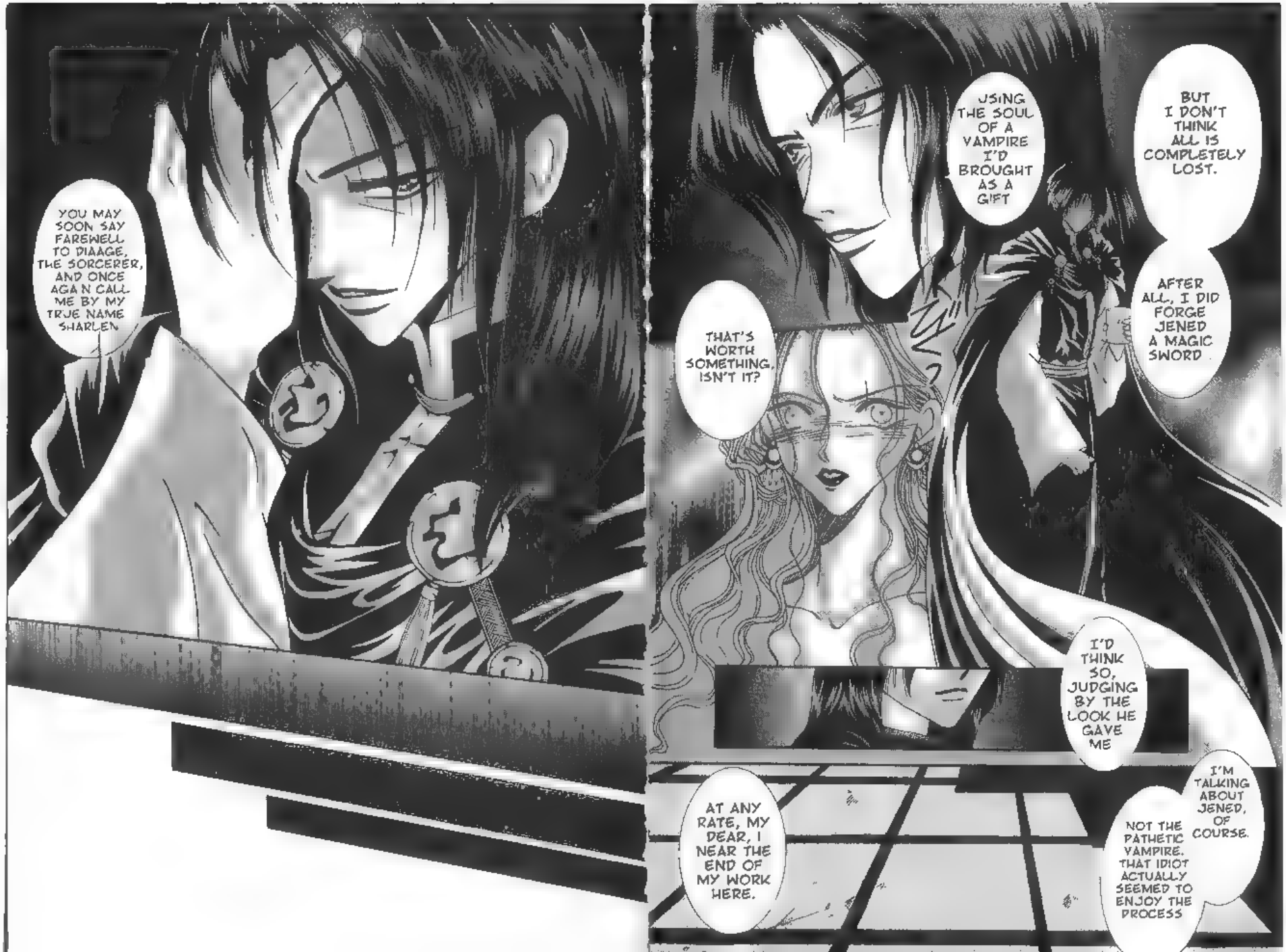
MY LORD...

AND THIS IS THE BEST THING FOR HER.

MY LORD, I WANTED TO WARN YOU ABOUT GORGEN
HE'S TOLD LORD JENED THAT YOU ARE NOT HUMAN
HE SUSPECTS YOUR VAMPIRISM.
MY APOLOGIES...
Oh!
SUSPICIOUS FOOL THAT HE IS...
IT WAS THE ONLY WAY I COULD HOPE TO GAIN HIS TRUST
I SEE.
HMM...I UNDERESTMATED YOU, GORGEN

I CAN'T GET USED TO YOUR NEW FACE.
YOU ARE SO BEAUTIFUL
WHY LINE YOUR BROW WITH WRINKLES? THE MARKS OF TIME AND WORRY... THAT'S SO... HUMAN.

THIS FACE IS FOR LORD JENED'S BENEFIT
MEN BELIEVE WHAT THEY'VE LOST IN YOUTHFUL LOOKS, THEY'VE GAINED IN WISDOM. TO PROJECT AN IMAGE OF INTELLIGENCE AND ACCOMPLISHMENT, I WAS FORCED TO MAKE SOME... CONCESSIONS WITH MY APPEARANCE


YOU MAY SOON SAY FAREWELL TO DIAAGE, THE SORCERER, AND ONCE AGA N CALL ME BY MY TRUE NAME SHARLEN
USING THE SOUL OF A VAMPIRE I'D BROUGHT AS A GIFT
BUT I DON'T THINK ALL IS COMPLETELY LOST.
AFTER ALL, I DID FORGE JENED A MAGIC SWORD
THAT'S WORTH SOMETHING, ISN'T IT?
I'D THINK SO, JUDGING BY THE LOOK HE GAVE ME
AT ANY RATE, MY DEAR, I NEAR THE END OF MY WORK HERE.
NOT THE PATHETIC VAMPIRE. THAT IDIOT ACTUALLY SEEMED TO ENJOY THE PROCESS
I'M TALKING ABOUT JENED, OF COURSE.

AS WE SPEAK, MY UNCLE'S WHISPERING SWEET NOTHINGS TO MY CAT. MY LIFE JUST GETS WEIRDER AND WEIRDER...

HUH?

IT'S LATE AND IT'S POURING! WHO'S THAT GUY WANDERING AROUND THE CASTLE?

THEY'RE HERE! HIDE!
トイレ

HERE'S YOUR DINNER, MILADY JUST LIKE YOU ORDERED.
PUT IT OVER THERE FOR ME THANKS.

ALL CLEAR!
LET'S EAT!
DAMN, GIRL! YOU DIDN'T TELL ME YOUR COOK WAS SO GOURMET!
OURS CAN BARELY BOIL AN EGG. OF COURSE, THAT'S NEVER STOPPED SIR KELD FROM TRYING TO EAT THEM.
FALAN..
I HAVE TO TELL YOU SOMETHING. I'M GOING TO SNEAK OUT TONIGHT.

PRINCESS FALAN..
..WE BROUGHT EVERYTHING YOU ASKED FOR
..BUT HOW YOU'RE GOING TO EAT IT ALL IS BEYOND ME.
THERE'S ENOUGH HERE FOR THREE PEOPLE!
YEAH, I KNOW.
WHAT CAN I SAY? ALL THIS EXCITEMENT'S GIVEN ME THE MUNCHIES.
パタン

FALAN, I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE.
I CAN'T FORGET ABOUT THEM
OH, WELL.. AS LONG AS IT DOESN'T BRING ABOUT THE END OF THE WORLD OR ANYTHING, NO HARM DONE, RIGHT?
ISHTAR?
.. I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING I JUST WISH I KNEW WHAT THAT "SOMETHING" WAS. I'M STILL WORKING ON THAT PART
...IT'S A RISK I HAVE TO TAKE.

PROMISE ME YOU'LL WEAR THIS, AND THAT YOU WON'T LEAVE YOUR ROOM.
IT'S A SECRET
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
UH... OKAY. BUT WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
...LEAVING THE CASTLE ISN'T THE BRIGHTEST THING TO DO.
I'LL ADMIT...
BUT...

DAMMIT, ISHTAR! WHY DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO BE SUCH A DRAMA QUEEN?!
HE'S LATE
イラ
イラ
イラ
DARRES SHOULD BE HERE BY NOW

ISHTAR, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU'RE STARTING TO FREAK ME OUT.
AW
DON'T BE SCARED.
JUST STAY HERE, OKAY?

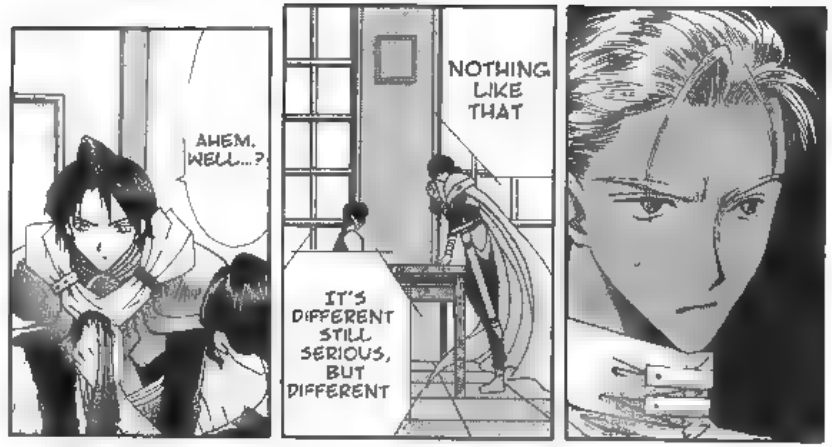
THIS IS TAKING TOO LONG
DAMMIT, I KNEW I SHOULD HAVE ASKED FOR DIRECTIONS BEFORE I LEFT
I JUST HOPE TO GOD I CAN GET THERE BEFORE ISHTAR CAUSES
FRANKIE MAY BE LONG OVERDUE FOR A SPANKING BUT I DON'T WANT THAT BIG-CHOT UNCLE OF HERS BEHIND THE SADDLE
吸血遊戯
Act.10

WHAT'S HE DOING?

La Naan Castle
SEVERAL HOURS AGO...
WHAT'S THIS? YOU SAY SHE'S IN CI XENETH?!
WHY AM I NOT SURPRISED? WELL, WHAT KIND OF PROBLEMS?
IS SHE HURT? IN JAIL? SHE DIDN'T STEAL GORGEN'S TOUPEE AGAIN, DID SHE?
DAMMIT, MAN, WHAT IS IT?!
YOU GOT IT.
WE'VE GOT PROBLEMS, THOUGH.

IN THE KINGDOM OF CI XENETH, SPANKINGS TEND TO BE FATAL!
吸血遊戯
シーゼネス
東領篇
Act.10

"THERE IS A VERY POWERFUL SORCERER IN CI XENETH. MY OWN ABILITIES PALE IN COMPARISON."
"CAPTAIN ILLSAIDE"
"HE SINGLE HANDEDLY ANNIHILATED THE KINGDOM OF MERARIM"
ILLSAIDE... SN'T HE THE ONE...?!
OKAY, VORD...
START AT THE BEGINNING
ALL RIGHT...


AHEM. WELL...?
NOTHING LIKE THAT
IT'S DIFFERENT STILL SERIOUS, BUT DIFFERENT

WITH CAPTAIN ILLSAIDE OF THE KNIGHTS OF CI XENETH.
YOU'VE HEARD OF HIM, RIGHT?
I THINK YOU'D BETTER GET OUT HERE
LOVE?
I THINK SHE'S IN LOVE

RIGHT!
I'LL BE THERE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
HOW MANY DAYS RIDE IS IT FROM LA NAAN TO CI XENETH?
DON'T BOTHER. JUST USE MY LILKE.
LILKE?
WELL, WOULD YA LOOK AT THE TIME?! GOTTA GO, DARRES. HAVE A SAFE JOURNEY AND ALL THAT
..UNDER THE CIRCUM-STANCES..
ORDINARILY, YOU'D BE THE LAST PERSON I'D ASK FOR HELP, BUT..
WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM?
AHEM!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND. YOU WANT ME TO USE A RUELLE?

..SO THEN SHE SAID, "TOMORROW MORNING, I'LL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING..."
TOMORROW MORNING?
THAT MEANS..
..SHE'S GOING TO DO SOMETHING TONIGHT!
AND SINCE YOU'RE THE ONLY PERSON WHO CAN GIVE HER AN ORDER WITHOUT GETTING HER SHOES THROWN AT YOU IN RESPONSE, YOU'D BETTER GET OUT HERE. PRONTO.
SURE SEEMS THAT WAY

THEY ALL HAVE RINGS.
HEY, WAIT! DID SEILIEZ GET A RING AS WELL?
WHERE'D HE GO?
ER, I MEAN - GOOD FOR HIM!
OF COURSE.
THE RINGS WERE SUPPOSED TO BE FOR EMERGENCIES, BUT VORD USED HIS LAST WEEK TO GET HOME FROM THE PUB WHEN HE WAS TOO DRUNK TO MOUNT HIS HORSE.
RELAX IT'S EASY.
THIS RING IS A LOT LIKE HER MAJESTY'S ALL OF US GOT LIKE RINGS WHEN WE WERE YOUNG, BUT I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO STILL HAS MINE
I don't know about this
コトン

HP
.....
STUPID RING!
I'M OUT NEAR THE CI XENETH BORDER!
How'd I get here?

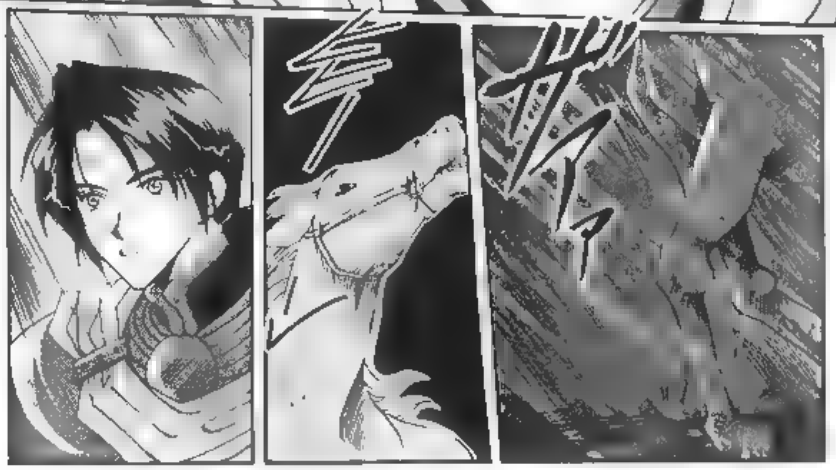
"WHERE'D HE GO?"

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS IMAGINE ARRIVING AT THE CASTLE THE RING WILL DO THE REST.
SO YOU'VE BEEN TO CI XENETH BEFORE, RIGHT?

.....

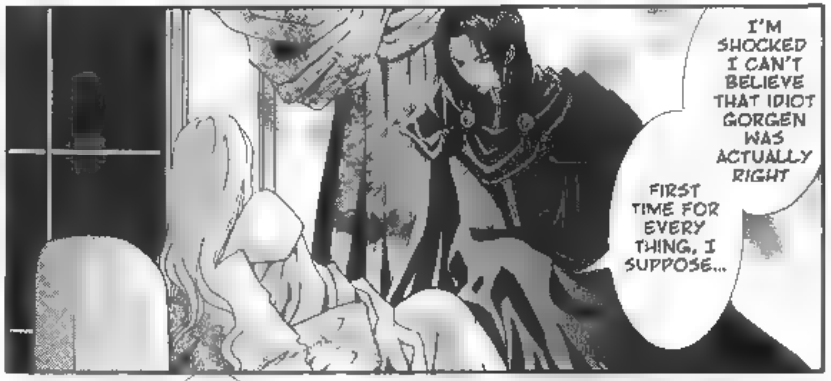
I THINK THIS IS THE RIGHT WAY, BUT WHERE'S THE CASTLE?

I SHOULD BE ABLE TO SEE IT BY NOW!



WAIT, YOU SAY YOU'RE A VAMPIRE MARQUIS?!
THEN YOU'RE ALREADY POWERFUL ENOUGH TO BECOME THE NEXT VAMPIRE KING!
VAMPIRES HAVE MOTHERS?
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME, THEN?! I HAVE NOTHING TO OFFER A CREATURE OF YOUR POWER.
UNLESS, YOU'RE PLANNING TO WIPE OUT PHELIOS' BLOODLINE YOURSELF...
..RATHER THAN WAITING FOR DUZELL'S REINCARNATION TO DO IT FOR YOU

YOU'RE A... VAMPIRE?


I'M SHOCKED I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT IDIOT GORGEN WAS ACTUALLY RIGHT
FIRST TIME FOR EVERY THING, I SUPPOSE...

I APOLOGIZE FOR DECEIV NG YOU, MY LORD
DIAAGE WAS MY MOTHER'S NAME I AM MARQUIS SHARLEN, THE VAMPIRE.

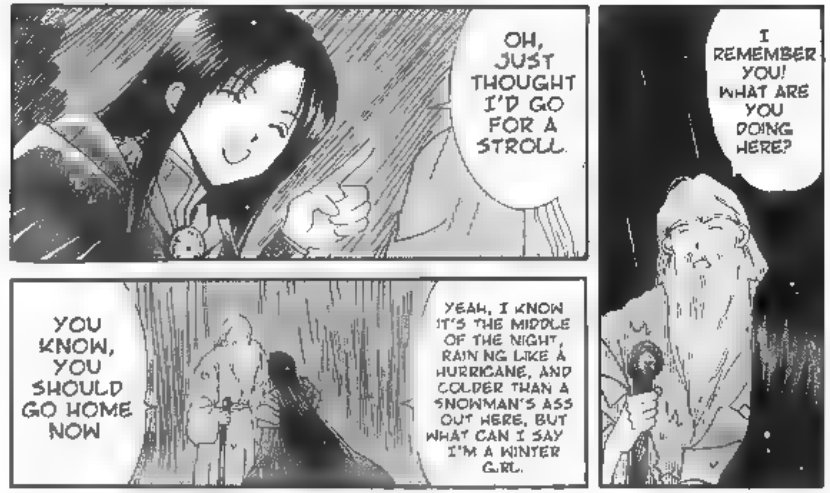
LORD JENED, YOU EXCEED MY EXPECTATIONS.

WELL...
..IF YOU WERE I, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
I'LL TELL YOU WHAT I'D DO.
I WOULD ACCEPT THE OFFER...
I'M ABOUT TO MAKE YOU.
FORGET ABOUT ALL THIS REVENGE NONSENSE AND STAY HERE WITH ME. WITH OUR COMBINED POWER, ST PHELIOSTA WILL BE OURS FOR THE TAKING.

YES.
FROM MERARIM?
ALERT YOUR SOLDIERS! PREPARE FOR BATTLE AGAINST THE LORD OF THE SEA!
I DON'T KNOW WHY THE LORD OF THE SEA WOULD TAKE ANY INTEREST IN US
BUT I DON'T THINK HE'S HERE ON HOLIDAY.
HE'S USING A VERY POWERFUL STRAIN OF DARK MAGIC. HE'S ALSO DEEPLY INDEBTING HIMSELF TO OTHER MONSTERS FOR THEIR HELP IN THIS BATTLE
MONSTERS THAT ARE LONGING FOR A TASTE OF THE MAN THAT HAS SLAUGHTERED SO MANY OF THEIR BRETHREN.

THE AMBITIOUS ONES MAKE SUCH NICE PUPPETS THEIR STRINGS ARE JUST WAITING TO BE... PLUCKED.
LORD JENED..
I AM AT YOUR SERVICE.
SOON, YOU WILL SIT ATOP THE THRONE OF ST. PHELIOSTA!
YES! THE THRONE!
BUT FIRST...
...WE HAVE A PROBLEM TO ADDRESS THIS RAIN BRINGS UNWELCOME VISITORS

HEY THERE, GRAMPS!
ヒョイ
……?!
BUT NO WORRIES, I'M SURE YOUR GUARDS CAN HANDLE IT. I IMAGINE THEY'VE SOBERED UP BY NOW, RIGHT?


OH, JUST THOUGHT I'D GO FOR A STROLL.
I REMEMBER YOU! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
YOU KNOW, YOU SHOULD GO HOME NOW
YEAH, I KNOW IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, RAINING LIKE A HURRICANE, AND COLDER THAN A SNOWMAN'S ASS OUT HERE, BUT WHAT CAN I SAY I'M A WINTER GIRL.

'CAUSE THIS CASTLE'S GOING TO TURN INTO A DISASTER ZONE IN ABOUT 10 MINUTES.
OH, AND ONE MORE THING...
WHAT?

I DON'T REGRET SAVING YOU.
YOU SAID I'D REGRET SAVING YOUR LIFE
I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I DON'T-- AND I WON'T
REMEMBER? WHEN THOSE BANDITS WERE BEING ALL NASTY!
WHAT?

HOW DID HE FIND OUT ABOUT OUR PLAN?
MONSTERS?
WAIT, HOW DO YOU KNOW?
WHO IS THAT?

"I SAVED YOU BECAUSE I WANTED TO..."
I SAVED YOU BECAUSE I WANTED TO -
...NOT BECAUSE I WAS TRYING TO DO SOMETHING FOR YOU
BUT HURRY BACK HOME, OKAY?
SO LONG, GRAMPS!
I GOTS TO GO!
'CAUSE I'M STARTING THE COUNTDOWN TO MONSTER MELTDOWN! FIVE, FOUR, THREE...!

FIND YOUR DAUGHTER AND LIBERATE HER WITH ALL OUR BRETHREN...
WHAT? DID DARRES STOP FOR DONUTS ON THE WAY?
DOESN'T HE KNOW THIS IS IMPORTANT?
DUP ARE YOU IN THERE?

...RESCUING ME FROM BANDITS
THAT IS A BRAVE KNIGHT, WHO WAS WOUNDED...
HIS LIFE WILL BE SPARED BUT THE OTHER HUMANS IN THE CASTLE WILL BE MEAT FOR OUR FEAST!
YOU ARE INVITED TO THAT MAN.
DEATH TO THE HUMANS! DEATH TO ALL MANKIND!!
WHILE WE WREAK OUR VENGEANCE, YOU, MY KING, MAY CARRY OUT YOUR MISSION.

STRANGE...
WAIT A MINUTE! ROY! WHO'S DU?
SOMETHING'S WRONG.
YES. WELL... NO.
DIAAGE? AND ISHTAR? BOTH OF THEM? TOGETHER?
THEY CAME TO THE BARRACKS SEPARATELY.
BUT BOTH THEIR REPORTS MATCHED MORE OR LESS...
OH, SIR VORD!
WE HAVE REPORTS FROM DIAAGE AND ISHTA THAT THE MONSTERS ARE AMASSING TON GHT IT APPEARS THEY MAY ONCE AGAIN ATTACK THE CASTLE
SO BE ON YOUR GUARD!
BUT..
...I WAS TRYING TO FIND DU!
I DON'T THINK ANYONE'S WARNED HER YET!
IF YOU SEE HER, GIVE HER THE NEWS!

...ISHTAR HAS AN IDENTICAL TWIN.
IT'S AS IF...
WEIRD, EH, KITTY?
THE GUY'S NOT AS DUMB AS HE LOOKS

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SO... KITTY...
ISHTAR NAMED YOU AFTER THE VAMPIRE KING DUZELL, RIGHT?
AND WHY AM I PASSING ISHTAR'S MESSAGE ON TO ISHTAR? WOULDN'T SHE HAVE HEARD ALREADY?
I'M STARTING TO HAVE SOME SYMPATHY FOR DARRES
SO "DU" HAS TO BE ISHTAR. BUT IF DU IS ISHTAR, THEN WHO IS ROY LOOKING FOR?
AND "DUZELL" WAS ALSO HER ALIAS IN THE TOURNA-MENT.
ポン
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THE GUARDS REFER TO DU AND ISHTA AS "THEY" AND "THEM," WHICH PROBABLY MEANS THEY'VE BEEN SEEN TOGETHER
HMM...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?

吸血遊戯
シー・ゼネス
東領篇
Act.11
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LET'S SEE
CAN'T BE
MUCH
FURTHER
NOW.

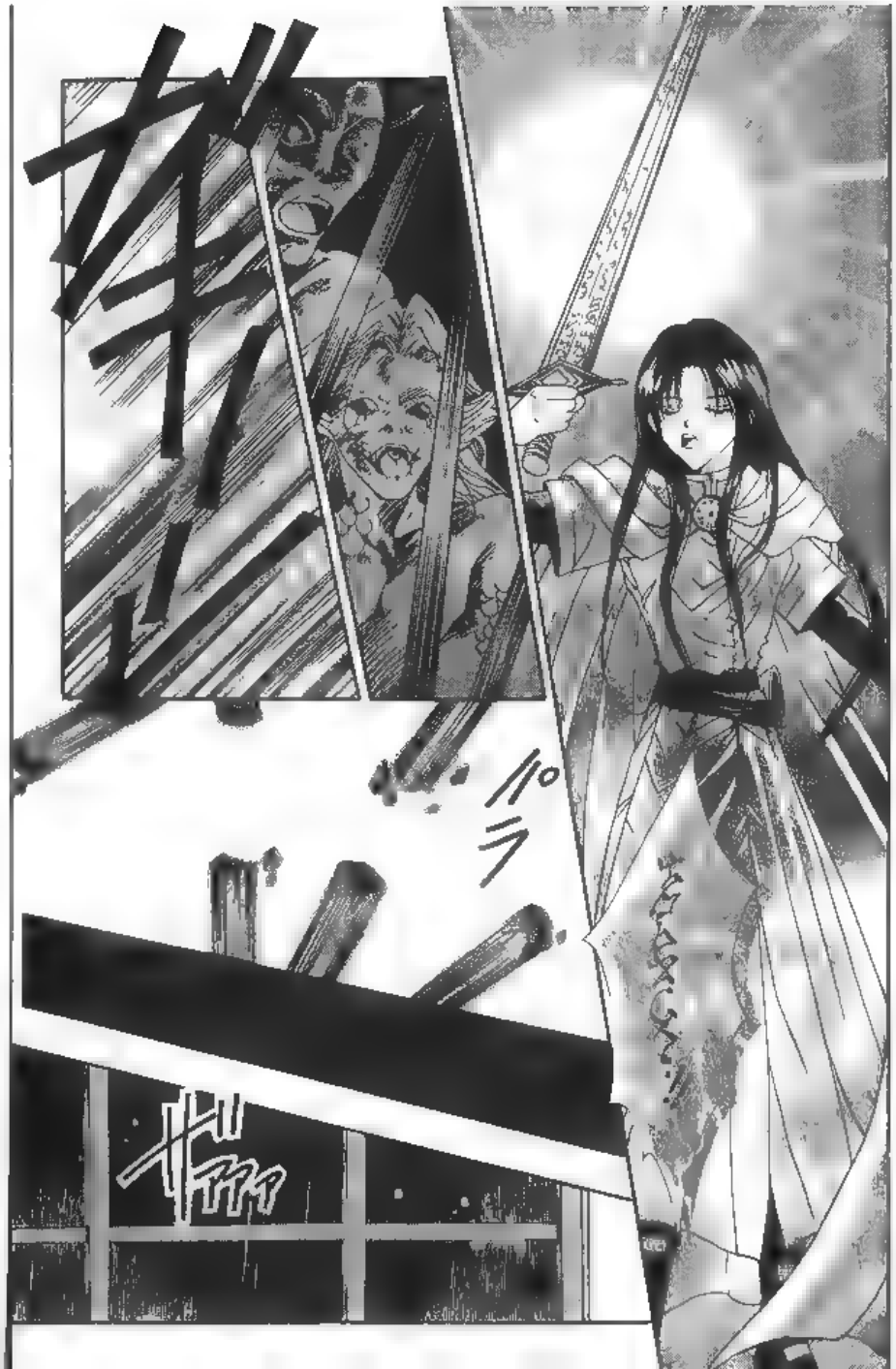
YEAH, LIKE THESE THINGS HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT I'M SAYING HALF OF THEM DON'T EVEN HAVE EARS!
キー キー
HE'S GOT ENOUGH TOYS!
..MY UNCLE TO MAKE YOU INTO RUELLES'
HERE'S THE DEAL!
I'M GOING TO LET YOU GUYS OUT!
I DON'T WANT..
キョロ キョロ
I COULD BE TELLING THEM HOW TO MAKE JELL-O FOR ALL THEY'D KNOW
キー キー

ジジジ
ALL RIGHT, MONSTERS! LISTEN UP!

I BELIEVE...
...THAT SHE'S TELLING US HOW TO MAKE JULIA.
NOW LISTEN...

THEY'RE MONSTERS, AND THEY'RE GOING TO DO WHAT THEY WANT, ANYWAY.
I'M NOT GOING TO GET THROUGH TO THEM, AND COME TO THINK OF IT, IT PROBABLY DOESN'T MATTER.
STILL, IT DOESN'T HURT TO KEEP TRYING.

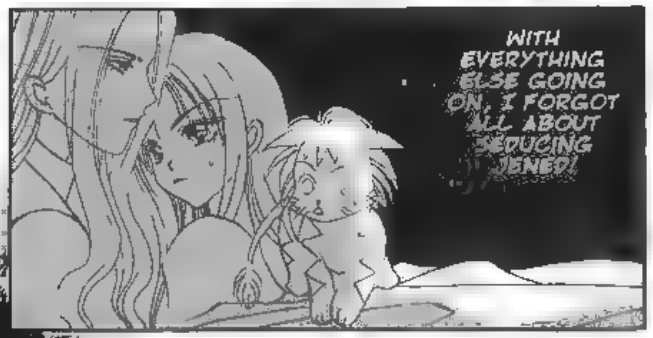
WHAT'S THAT PATHETIC THING GIBBERING ABOUT?
AFTER I LET YOU OUT, I WANT YOU ALL TO GO STRAIGHT HOME! YOU HEAR ME? HOOOOOME! HOME!
I KNOW YOU'RE MAD ABOUT BEING PENNED UP IN HERE!
I KNOW YOU WANT REVENGE, BUT DON'T THROW AWAY THIS CHANCE! AND DON'T HURT ANYONE!



I DON'T WANT YOU TO BECOME MY UNCLE'S TOOLS, BUT...
THE BEST FLAVOR IS CHERRY?
IF YOU DO TURN ON US, THE PEOPLE HERE WILL FIGHT YOU!
THEY FIND YOU PRETTY SCARY!
...I DON'T WANT ANY INNOCENT PEOPLE TO GET HURT!

ISHTAR WAS RIGHT!

OH, DAMN...


WITH EVERYTHING ELSE GOING ON, I FORGOT ALL ABOUT SEDUCING JENED!

...IS IF ISHTAR'S SOMEHOW MADE A DUPLICATE OF HERSELF.
THAT WOULD EXPLAIN..

THE ONLY WAY THIS MAKES ANY SENSE...
ギュッ!!

AND WHY SHE'S ALL OF A SUDDEN IN LOVE WITH ILLSAIDE
...WHEN JUST LAST WEEK SHE WAS DORKY FOR DARRES.
..WHY THE SOLDIERS ARE SEEING DOUBLE.

MEOW?!
ISHTAR? ILLSAIDE? DARRES? WHAT THE HELL DO YOU KNOW?

HELP! MONSTERS!!
BITING MY LEG... OWWIE...
GROWL!

MONSTERS!
!
YOU'LL JUST COMPLICATE THINGS. WAIT HERE UNTIL IT'S OVER
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND
HOLD ON! YOU'RE SAFER HERE.
ILLSAIDE AND HIS TROOPS WILL TAKE CARE OF THE MONSTERS.
IF THESE MONSTERS ARE FROM MERARIM, WE MUST KEEP THEM...
..AWAY FROM ILLSA DE
ILLSAIDE'S FAMILY HAS COME FOR SUPPER? AND WITHOUT AN INVITATION? MONSTERS CAN BE SO RUDE
I DON'T HAVE TIME TO EXPLAIN-
YOU KNOW ABOUT ILLSAIDE?
THEN YOU MUST ALSO KNOW..
...THAT I'VE BEEN HUNTING THIS LORD OF THE SEA FOR MANY YEARS.

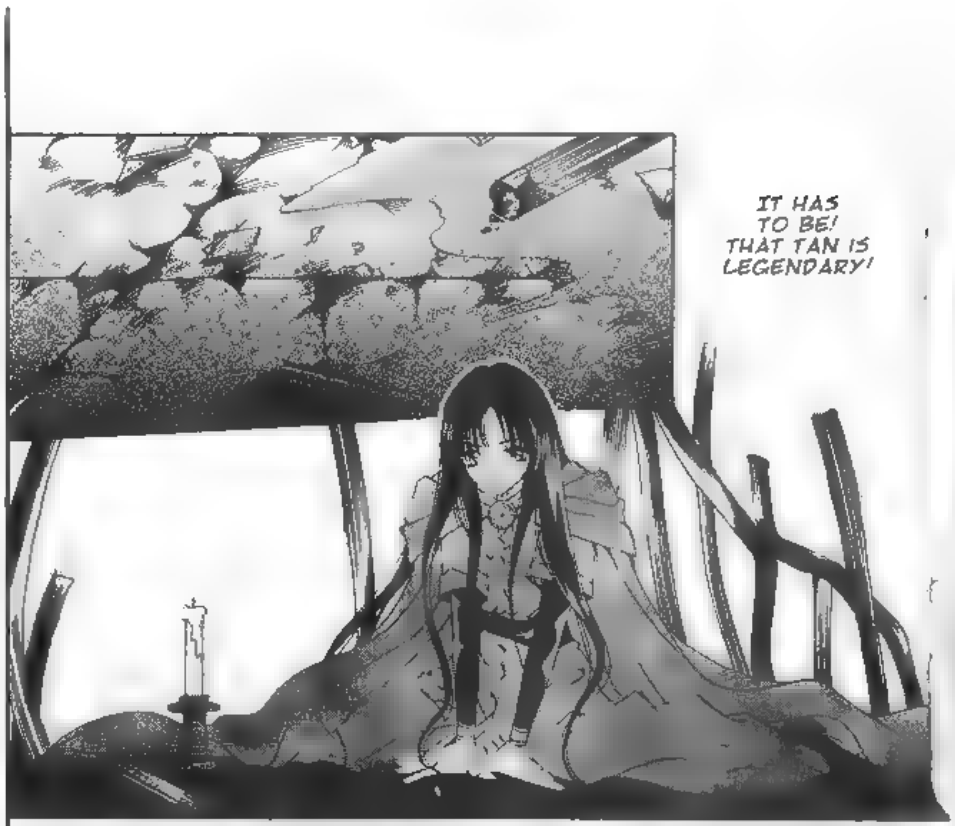
SHE WAS
ILLSAIDE'S MOTHER
Heh heh heh
HALF HUMAN, HALF MONSTER-- HE IS MY GREATEST CREATION!
ILLSAIDE, MY MASTERPIECE!

HE'S THE ULTIMATE PRIZE.
HIS POWERS ARE SUPPOSEDLY INCREDIBLE
YOU NEVER CAPTURED HIM?
SHE COULD TAKE THE FORM OF A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN, WITH BEAUTIFUL CRIMSON HAIR IT WAS THE SAME SHADE AS A FRESHLY PICKED ROSE
NO
BUT ONCE, MANY YEARS AGO, I CAME CLOSE I SNARED HIS DAUGHTER
OR NEWLY SPILLED BLOOD

WHY, ILLSAIDE, IT APPEARS YOU HAVE A BIT OF A PEST PROBLEM. DON'T YOU GUYS USE LEGSARAMS?
NO, WE DON'T
ROY, FIND AND PROTECT THE PRINCESS!
VORO, WILL YOU STAY HERE AND HOLD THEM OFF? I DON'T KNOW HOW THEY GOT OUT, BUT I'M GOING TO CHECK THE DUNGEON
Ha Ha!

.....
!!
DAMN! YOU BLEW HIS WHOLE HEAD OFF!
I DIDN'T SEE THE FAMILY RESEMBLANCE UNTIL NOW, BUT YOU AND ISHTA MUST'VE STUDIED OUT OF THE SAME SPELL BOOK!
YOUR MAGIC IS EVEN BETTER THAN YOUR BROTHER'S!
MY BROTHER? ISHTA? UM... I GUESS

WHAT? WE NEED YOU HERE!
YORD! BEHIND YOU!
TO BE CONTINUED...


IT HAS TO BE! THAT TAN IS LEGENDARY!

WHO'S THAT ..?

THAT WON'T HAPPEN. THEY HAVE SCORES TO SETTLE...
!!

I THINK THAT'S ALL OF THEM!
BE NICE MONSTERS AND GO ON HOME.. AND DON'T EAT ANYONE ON THE WAY!

VORD?
HE HAD PNEUMONIA AND COULDN'T LEAVE HIS BED, BUT HIS NAME WAS... VORD.
WHEN I WAS IN LA NAAN, I NEVER MET THE YOUNGEST PRINCE.

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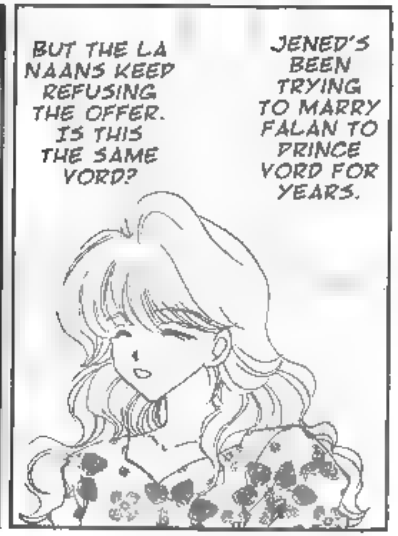
BUT THE LA NAANS KEEP REFUSING THE OFFER. IS THIS THE SAME VORD?
JENED'S BEEN TRYING TO MARRY FALAN TO PRINCE VORD FOR YEARS.

AND THAT'S SOMETHING I'M GOING TO HAVE TO LIVE WITH FOREVER, MAYBE
I?
I KNEW OTHERS WOULD SUFFER
BUT I STILL...
WOULD HAVE DONE THE SAME THING
WE WATER CHILDREN ARE PEACE-LOVING SPIRITS, BUT SOME OF THE OTHERS...
THE WHITE-MANED DEMON KEPT MONSTERS OF ALL KINDS BEHIND THESE BARS.
...ARE AS VICIOUS AND BLOOD-THIRSTY...
...AS THE MAN WHO HAS IMPRISONED THEM.

?!
.....
CHILD...
...WHEN THE DEMON SEES WHAT YOU HAVE DONE, HE WILL KILL YOU
NO. THANK YOU, BUT I MUST REMAIN HERE
YOU MUST FLEE. PLEASE, COME WITH ME.
THANKS
BUT...
...THAT DEMON IS MY UNCLE. I REALLY SHOULD GIVE HIM A HAND.

COME WHAT MAY
I BELIEVE IN MY CHOICE! I HAVE TO. AND COME WHAT MAY, IT WAS THE RIGHT THING TO DO
HUMAN CHILD, I THANK YOU FOR RELEASING ME FROM THIS PRISON.
BUT YOU DO NOT REALIZE THE DANGER YOU'RE IN.
ALLOW ME TO RETURN THE FAVOR YOU HAVE DONE FOR ME. I CAN TAKE YOU SOMEPLACE SAFE. BUT WE MUST LEAVE IMMEDIATELY. MY POWER QUICKLY FADES.
THAT'S WHAT GIVES MY RING ITS POWER!
A LILKE'S SOUL..

WHY ARE WE DISCUSSING MOTIVATIONS AND FAMILY DYSFUNCTION WHEN YOU'RE ABOUT TO POP?! YOUR CHILDREN MUST COME FIRST! SO SCOOT!
OMIGOD! YOU'RE PREGNANT, AREN'T YOU?!
YOU HAVE TO GO! NOW!
?
AAAIIIEEE!!
ヒ

THE BEAST THAT IMPRISONED US?
HE'S YOUR UNCLE?
YOU HUMANS ARE SUCH STRANGE CREATURES. WHY DID YOU FREE US?
?!
AFTER ALL, I PROMISED FALAN I'D SPARE HER FATHER...THEN I GO AND RELEASE A MOB OF ANGRY MONSTERS INTO HIS LIVING ROOM.
NOT EXACTLY LIVING UP TO MY PROMISE.
I DON'T KNOW.
I PROBABLY SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT THIS THROUGH A BIT MORE.
IT WAS WRONG FOR MY UNCLE TO IMPRISON YOU, BUT NOW I'VE RISKED THE LIVES OF EVERYONE IN THE CASTLE.

...BUT AT LEAST DARRES ISN'T HERE TO LECTURE ME
...BUT MAYBE I CAN AT LEAST ENSURE THAT THE GOOD GUYS GET TO RIDE OFF INTO THE SUNSET
I DON'T THINK THIS TALE'S GOING TO HAVE A HAPPY ENDING..
EITHER WAY, I KNOW I'M GONNA HEAR ABOUT THIS TOMORROW
I SUPPOSE I SHOULD LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE. TRUE, I'M PROBABLY GOING TO BECOME A MIDNIGHT SNACK OR ONE OF THESE BEASTIES...

?!
C'MERE, YOU BIG LUG! I MISSED YOU!
THE CRAZY THING ABOUT IT IS...I'M NOT LYING

LADY ISHTAR!! WHAT DID YOU DO NOW?!
R...
DARKES!
OH, SHIT...

AND THAT SCARED ME TO NO END...
吸血遊戯
東領篇
Act.12
I THOUGHT...
!!
I THOUGHT I'D NEVER SEE YOU AGAIN!

吸血遊戯
東領篇
Act.12

What ?
ALL THIS IT'S YOUR FAULT, ISN'T IT?

WHY WOULDN'T YOU SEE ME AGAIN?
SOB SOB..
BECAUSE I RELEASED ALL THE MONSTERS AND RATHER THAN GOING HOME THEY ALL TRIED TO EAT ME! SOB! WELL, EXCEPT FOR A FEW THAT SEEMED TO ONLY WANT JELL-O. SOB' AND I DIDN'T KNOW WHERE YOU WERE! SOB! AND I MISSED YOU SO MUCH!
SHOULD'VE KNOWN...
WHAT?!

WHAT IS
...THIS?
.....
YOU SET A BUNCH OF ANGRY MONSTERS LOOSE INSIDE THE CASTLE. WHAT DID YOU THINK WOULD HAPPEN? DID YOU THINK THEY'D ALL MAKE FRIENDS WITH JENED HOLD HANDS, AND SING KUM BY FREAKIN' YA?!
I KNEW PEOPLE COULD GET HURT. BUT IT WAS THE RIGHT THING TO DO.
NO

"...'CAUSE THIS CASTLE'S GOING TO TURN INTO A DISASTER ZONE IN ABOUT 10 MINUTES!"
IT MUST HAVE BEEN HER...
SO THIS IS
DO YOU KNOW...
...WHAT HAPPENED TO MY DAUGHTER? SHE WAS IMPRISONED HERE.
WATER CHILD!
WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
MY KING!
THE FEMALE WITH THE LONG BLACK MANE HAS FREED US!
SHE SOUGHT TO SPARE US FROM OUR WRETCHED PLIGHT...
A HUMAN...

MY LITTLE GIRL...
...SHACKLED IN THIS HOLE... LEFT TO DIE HERE LIKE AN ANIMAL!
I HAVE FAILED.
WITH ALL MY POWER, I WAS TOO LATE TO SAVE HER.
BUT HE LIVES...

NOT FOR CERTAIN, MY LORD
BUT I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT SHE DIED BEHIND THESE BARS.
!
I SEE.
FOR YEARS I SEARCHED FOR HER... I'D ALMOST GIVEN UP HOPE. BUT AFTER THE HUMANS FINISHED THEIR WAR IN MERARIM, A WATER SPRITE TOLD ME..
OF A WHITE-MANED HUMAN WHO HELD OUR KIND CAPTIVE
THIS MAN.. THIS *DEVIL* WAS USING HER TO CREATE SOME KIND OF WEAPON.

REALLY...?
THE BLOOD-RED MANE OF THE MER-TRIBES.
!!
WHO LIVES...?
YOUR GRANDSON.
BEFORE HER DEATH, YOUR DAUGHTER BORE A CHILD. HE IS HALF HUMAN.
I NEVER HAD THE HONOR OF MEETING THE PRINCESS.
BUT I HAVE MET THE BOY.
HE HAS...
!!
MY GRANDSON? BEFOULED WITH HUMAN BLOOD?!

HUH? WHY IS DIAAGE GIVING YOU ORDERS?
AND WHY WOULD HE SAY THAT?
I...
I'M NOT SURE...
PRINCESS! YOU'RE NOT HURT! THANK THE GODS!
CAPTAIN ILLSAIDE AND SIR DIAAGE ORDERED ME TO PROTECT YOU!
HEE HEE! ROY, HAVE YOU BEEN LICKING TOADS AGAIN? YOU'RE ACTING SO WEIRD!

!

SIR VORD!
FOR THE RECORD, LET'S GET ONE THING CLEAR I AM NOT GONNA BE THE ONE TO CLEAN THIS MESS UP THESE THINGS SMELL BAD ENOUGH WHEN THEY'RE ALIVE I DON'T EVEN WANNA THINK ABOUT WHEN THEY START TO STIFFEN.
キィィィ

NO WAY!!
THAT CAN'T BE FALAN!! I HEARD SHE WAS GORGEOUS!!

WHO'S YOUR FRIEND?
THIS IS HER ROYAL HIGHNESS, PRINCESS FALAN OF CI XENETH.

I COULDN'T HELP BUT NOTICE...
...THAT THE MONSTERS ARE LEAVING ME ALONE.
OF COURSE, IF THESE GUYS WERE THAT SMART, THEY WOULDN'T BE DOWN HERE SNACKING ON SQUIRES.
PERHAPS THEY REALIZE WHO I TRULY AM. PERHAPS THEY RECOGNIZE THE REINCARNATION OF DUZELL, THE VAMPIRE KING
I OVERHEARD AN ORC SAYING THAT HE HAD SPOTTED JENED AND I'VE FOLLOWED HIM HERE.
BUT, I HAVE OTHER THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT
THEY'D REALIZE THAT THE BEST MORSELS, THE FATTEST AND MOST PLUMP, ARE UPSTAIRS...

HE HAS SAVED OUR KING'S LIFE!
LET THE HALF-MAN ONE PASS!
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ALAS, POOR ORC. BUT WHERE BE OUR JENED NOW?
WITH THIS RACKET GOING ON, HE WOULDN'T BE CATCHING UP ON HIS READING. MARAUDING MONSTERS CAN BE SO INCONSIDERATE...
?!

SO, I LET THE MONSTERS GO!
ALL OF THEM! THEY WERE SO HAPPY!
Ahem!
OF COURSE THEY WERE HAPPY, ISHTAR.
YOU'D JUST OPENED THE BUFFET!
THERE HAD TO BE ANOTHER WAY! ONE THAT WOULDN'T INVOLVE THE DESTRUCTION OF MOST OF CI XENETH!

RIGHT NOW, THE SOLDIERS COULD REALLY USE YOUR HELP WITH, UH ..CLOSING DOWN THE BUFFET
AND DARRES, TRY NOT TO KILL ANY OF THEM
MAYBE WE CAN JUST CONVINCE THEM TO LEAVE.
YOU WANT ME TO TRY TO REASON WITH MONSTERS?
THESE MONSTERS AREN'T BAD, THEY'RE JUST ANGRY
THEY'RE MISUNDERSTOOD MAYBE THEY JUST NEED TO BE SHOWN SOME LOVE
IT COULD WORK
SO...
..HELP ME REASON WITH THEM, DARRES! PLEASE?

YOU THINK SO?
DO YOU REALLY THINK MY UNCLE WOULD RELEASE THEM? HE'S SPENT YEARS BUILDING THIS COLLECTION!
AND EVEN IF HE COULD BE CONVINCED TO DO THAT I'D BE THE WORST PERSON TO GO ASKING.
HE WANTS ME DEAD, REMEMBER? TRUST ME. . THIS WAS THE ONLY WAY
LOOK, YELL AT ME LATER
TRUST YOU?

...OF YOUR GOOD DEEDS MORE CAREFULLY
NEXT TIME, WEIGH THE COSTS ..
YOU SHOULD NOT REGRET DOING THE RIGHT THING ..
PLEASE
I'M BEG-GING YOU
!
I'LL DO WHAT I CAN.

KRRR!

NO, MY LORD!

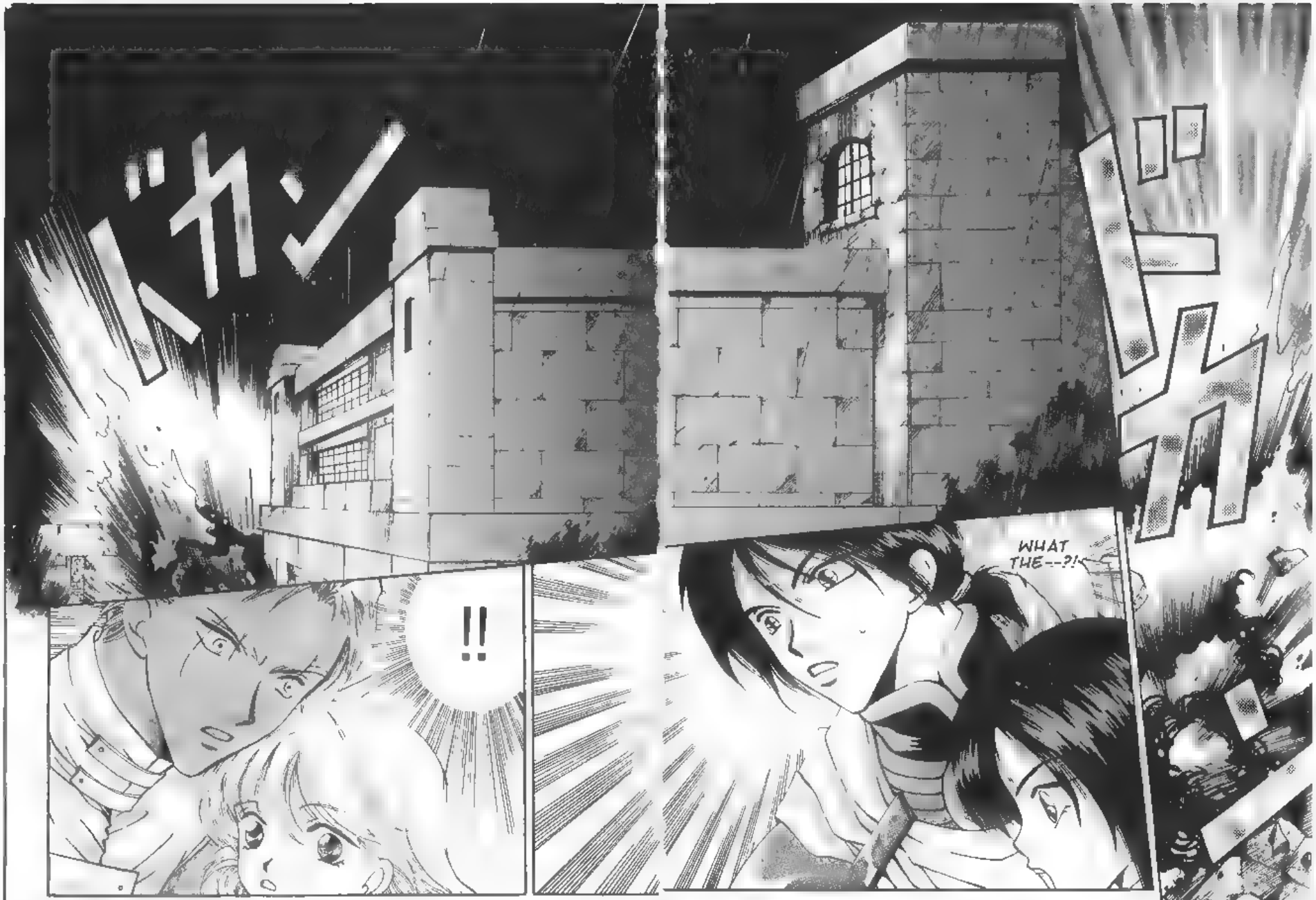
WATER CHILD, LEAVE NOW!

ゴウオオオオオ
WHAT KIND OF MONSTER STAYS BEHIND AFTER IT'S BEEN FREED?
……!!

I CANNOT ALLOW THIS ABOMINATION TO LIVE.
KING!
THIS ACT FILLS ME WITH GREAT SORROW, MY WRETCHED CHILD YOU PLAYED NO PART IN YOUR CREATION

ONE MORE THING REMAINS UNRESOLVED
THIS BOY.
DEAR CHILD..
I WAS TOO LATE TO RELEASE YOU THE BLACK MANED ONE DID MY JOB FOR ME
BUT IT APPEARS MY WORK HERE IS NOT YET COMPLETE.
IT IS OUR BLOOD THAT GIVES HIM HIS POWER.
OUR BLOOD.. UNNATURALLY CORRUPTED INTO A WEAPON BUILT TO DESTROY US!

吸血遊戯
東領篇
Act.13
I WISH YOU COULD BE SPARED, BUT FOR THE GOOD OF OUR KIND, I MUST SEE THIS THROUGH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!!
WHAT THE--?!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I'M FINE
WHAT WAS THAT?
I THINK IT CAME FROM...

LILKE?
WAIT! THE LILKE MIGHT STILL BE DOWN THERE..
I'VE GOT TO CHECK!
YOU GO HELP THOSE GUARDS!

DAMMIT, ISHTAR!
I DON'T KNOW.
WHAT THE HELL WAS THAT?!
I BELIEVE IT CAME FROM THE DUNGEON.

DAMN.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I DIDN'T SEE IT EARLIER
IT'S IN HER EYES...
...THAT YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH ILLSAIDE?
FALAN, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL US.
Ahh
P
P
P
!!

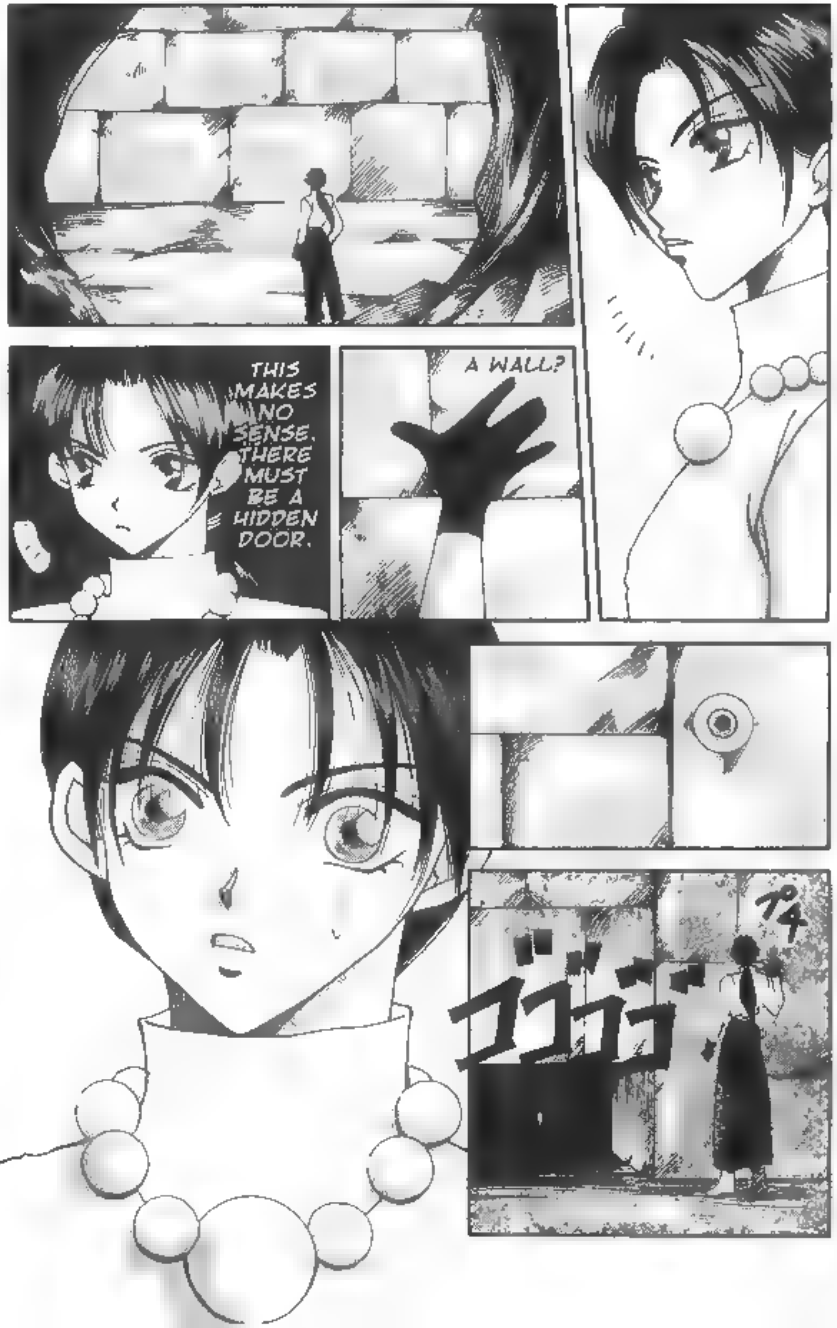
ROY!
DIDN'T YOU SAY ILLSAIDE WENT DOWN THERE?!
THE DUNGEON?
BUT DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE CAPTAIN! HELL, HE'S PROBABLY THE ONE WHO SET OFF THAT EXPLOSION! ANY MINUTE NOW, WE'LL PROBABLY SEE HIM EMERGE FROM THE--
YEAH, HE DID.
ILLSAIDE...
ILLSAIDE THIS, ILLSAIDE THAT. I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF IT!

Hey, guys! Wait for me!
SIR VORD! YOU SHOULDN'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT ...
WELL, THAT'S JUST PERFECT!
I MEAN..UM.. I'M SO HAPPY FOR YOU BOTH!
HEY, MAYBE I CAN HELP YOU TWO LOVEBIRDS OUT!
ULP?!
WHY DON'T YOU AND I GO FIND HIM NOW?! HEH, HEH...
I KNOW!

MY KING!
IMPOSSIBLE, MY SON?...
I CAN SEE THAT YOU ARE CRAZY LIKE MY FATHER. YES, YOU MAY NOT KNOW IT, BUT YOUR YOUNG
YES...
A HUGE BLOOD

THE VICTORY IS YOURS...
NOW! END MY MISERY, MY GRANDSON.
!!
!!
STOP!
DO NOT KILL HIM!

ILLSAIDE!
YOU HAVE DONE WELL, MY CAPTAIN.
WELL, WELL..
WELCOME, LORD OF THE SEA! I'VE SPENT THE LAST 20 YEARS LOOKING FOR YOU..
..BUT I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED THAT YOU WOULD COME TO ME IN TIME.
heh, heh, heh..
JUST IMAGINE THE RUELLE WE CAN CRAFT FROM THIS CREATURE!
I CAN HARDLY WAIT.
IN FACT, I'M NOT EVEN UPSET ABOUT LOSING ALL MY MONSTERS
THEIR KING IS WORTH MORE THAN THE REST OF THEM COMBINED.


THIS MAKES NO SENSE. THERE MUST BE A HIDDEN DOOR.
A WALL?
ゴゴゴゴ
P4

HE'S NEARBY. I CAN SMELL HIM.
WHAT BETTER PLACE TO HIDE THAN IN A SECRET CHAMBER?
JENED IS MUCH SMARTER THAN I GAVE HIM CREDIT FOR.
ガッ
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YIKES!
THERE ARE TOO MANY MONSTERS!
SIR VORD! WE HAVE TO TURN BACK!
YEAH, WE'RE ALMOST THERE!
THE DUNGEON IS AT THE END OF THIS HALLWAY, RIGHT?

ギリッ
ISHTAR?!
THIS IS BAD...
THE THREE OF THEM TOGETHER. THIS IS VERY, VERY BAD.

?
HEY, GUYS! LOOK OUT!!
HUH?
?

THEY LOOK SO MUCH ALIKE, I'LL BET THEIR MOTHER CAN'T EVEN TELL THEM APART!
YOU'RE NOT THE FIRST TO MAKE THAT MISTAKE!
THAT'S DU?
THAT'S NOT ISHTAR! THAT'S DU!

YOU'RE SAYING THEY'RE... TWINS?
YEAH, I'M SCREWED.

STOP!
PLEASE, ILLSAIDE, BEFORE SHE OPENS HER MOUTH AGAIN
AND I THOUGHT MY EX-WIFE WAS ANNOYING. ILLSAIDE, BE A GOOD MAN AND KILL THAT DAMNABLE THING FOR ME.

I'M BEGINNING TO THINK THIS WHOLE HERO THING IS VASTLY OVERRATED

OKAY, I THINK YOU GOT THEIR ATTENTION.
.....?!

STOP!

!!
PRINCESS ISHTAR OF ST PHELIOSTA?!
WA T A MINUTE.
DU?
heh, heh, heh.
NOW, WILL SOMEONE PLEASE TELL ME WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?
MY LORD, DON'T BE FOOLED.
WHATEVER SHE MAY CALL HERSELF, THAT IS DEFINITELY PRINCESS ISHTAR

SHARLEN...
IT IS NOW TIME FOR YOU TO PLAY YOUR PART. SHOW ME THE POWER OF A VAMPIRE MARQUIS!
SHARLEN?!
DESTROY THEM BOTH!
SHARLEN CAN DEAL WITH ISHTAR.
ILLSAIDE, TAKE CARE OF THE LILIKE

ha ha ha ha ha!
THIS IS TOO MUCH!
THE GODS ARE CERTAINLY SMILING ON ME TODAY!
THE LORD OF THE SEA AND THE THRONE OF ST PHELIOSTA ARE MINE! AT THE SAME TIME! CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?!

PRINCESS ISHTAR MAY YET PROVE USEFUL. I WILL SPARE HER LIFE.
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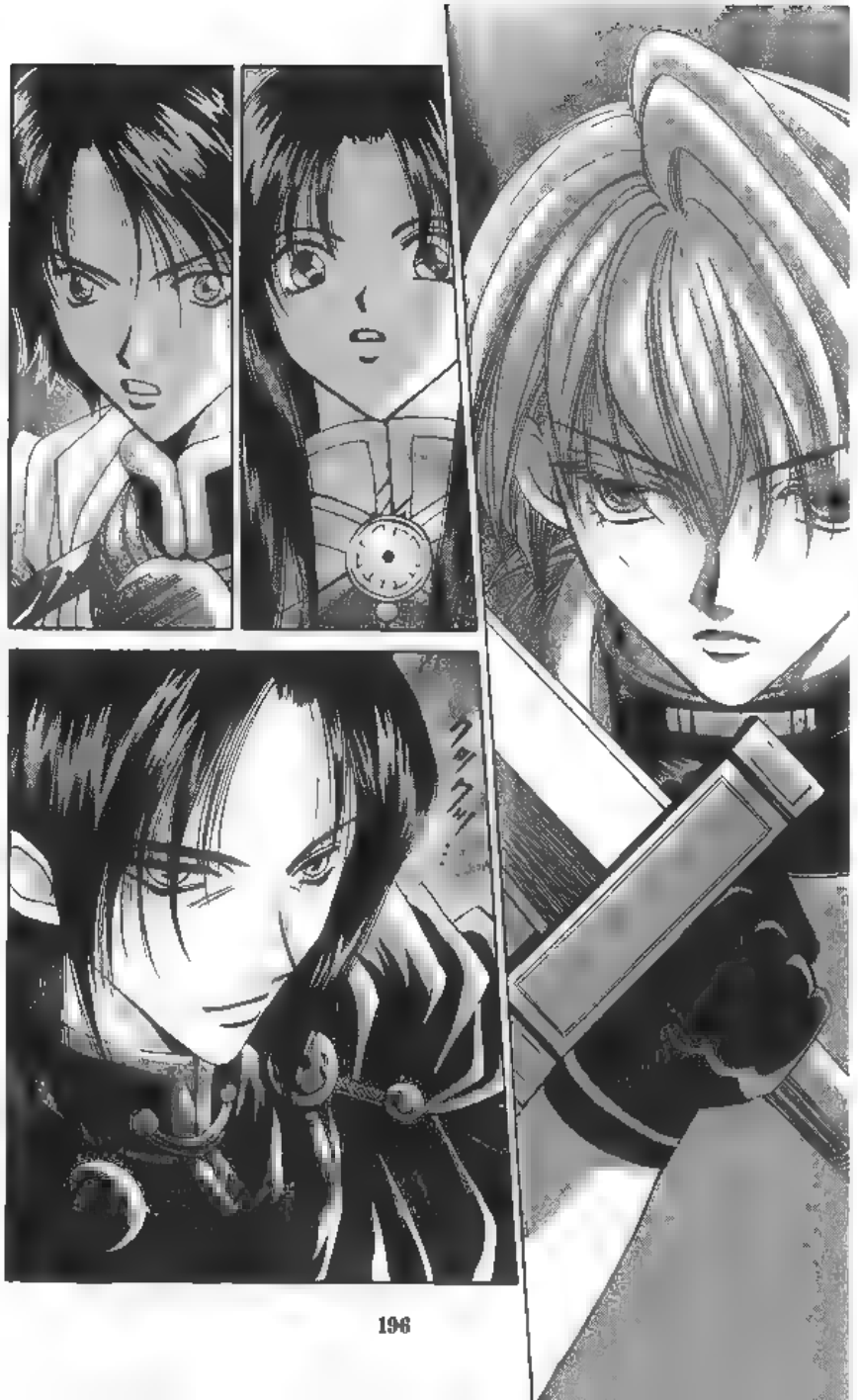
ポア…
BUT I'M NOT ABOUT TO LEAVE WITHOUT A LITTLE SOUVENIR.
!!



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?!
HE'S USING HOLY MAGIC? BUT HE'S A VAMPIRE!
THAT SWORD...
To Be Continued in Volume 7

MORE LETTERS

THE MOST POPULAR VAMPIRE GAME CHARACTERS ARE:

1. DUZELL
2. ISHTAR
3. DARRES
4. ILLSAIDE
5. YORD

ALL THE MAJOR CHARACTERS, REALLY. SEILIEZ IS PRETTY POPULAR TOO. BUT WHERE'S THE LOVE FOR KRAI?

MOST FANS WANT TO SEE THESE COUPLES GET TOGETHER:

1. ISHTAR AND DARRES
2. ISHTAR AND DUZELL
3. ILLSAIDE AND FALAN
4. ILLSAIDE AND DUZELL
5. DARRES AND YUJINN

NO ONE WANTS TO SEE JILL AND KRAI HOOK UP?

MY FAVORITE COMMENTS FROM FANS:

1. I STARTED READING VG AFTER A (FRIEND, SIBLING ETC) RECOMMENDED IT.

2. READING VG LETS ME FORGET ABOUT THE NEGATIVE THINGS IN MY LIFE. I READ VG TO RELAX. IT MAKES ME WANT TO BE A BETTER PERSON.

3. YOU'RE A VERY SEXY LITTLE CAT-GIRL THING. I'M HUNGRY. I'M GONNA MAKE A SANDWICH.

THANKS FOR THE PRAISE, GUYS. I THINK.

I want to thank all my fans from the bottom of my heart!!!

LETTERS

Soap subs...
A Duzzie doll...
Darres doll...
Ishtar Doll...
I FEEL SO BAD! I STILL NEED TO SEND THANK YOU CARDS TO THE FANS WHO SENT ME GIFTS!

...THEY'RE GOING TO FORM A MOB AND COME LYNCH ME.
Admittedly, I've been watching a lot of Westerns lately...
I'M STARTING TO GET SCARED THAT IF I DON'T ANSWER ALL MY FANS...

...PLEASE BE PATIENT WITH ME!
Hey! The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly is on again! I'll get the popcorn!
TO MY FANS WHO WRITE ME LETTERS IN THE FUTURE...

HELLO!

BUT MORE MYSTERIES YET REMAIN.
TO WHAT?
ANSWERS?
ANSWERS ARE STARTING TO ARRIVE AS WE WRAP UP THE CI XENETH ARC.
As usual, Darres is the last one to figure it all out...

YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW OFTEN I GET ASKED THIS.
Dear Judal,
How does Duzell really feel about Ishtar? Does our feline friend have a freaky little fling in his future?
GRRR?!

Postscript

VAMPIRE GAME

Next issue...

So what's worse then finding your castle overrun by cranky monsters? Finding it overrun by cranky, hungry monsters, which is the very spot in which Jened finds himself at the start of our next volume. While the monsters run rampant, chewing everything in sight, Darres finds himself locking blades with none other than Sharlen. Severely outmatched, our hero stands little chance of defeating the Vampire Marquis on his own. Darres shouldn't take it personally. After all, with the exception of Illsaide, it's hard to imagine anyone who could. Unfortunately, Illsaide is too busy reeling in shock to be of much help to anyone. What startling event could shake the young captain to his very core? It's one of the many secrets ready to be revealed as the Ci Xeneth are come to its spectacular close!

AND FINALLY...
I'M TERRIBLE AT REMEMBERING FACES.
I HAVE A REALLY AWFUL MEMORY!
Are buttons really all that cute?
HELLO!
I THOUGHT SHE WAS CUTE AS A BUTTON!
WHEN I FIRST MET MY AGENT...
That's why she's a squirrel!
Speaking of impressions, I can do a great Christopher Walken!
BUT THE NEXT TIME I SAW HER, I THOUGHT SHE WAS REALLY BEAUTIFUL. MY IMPRESSION CHANGES EACH TIME I SEE HER!
HELLO!
BUT WHEN BEARS APPROACH ME AND TRY HANDING ME THEIR BUSINESS CARD, I COMPLETELY FREAK OUT!
Impressive business card
WHEN PEOPLE I DON'T RECOGNIZE TRY TO TALK TO ME, I USUALLY PANIC...
QUIZ ANSWERS
Sorry!
THESE ARE THE ANSWERS FOR VOLUME 5!
ANSWERS FROM VOLUME 4 WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT VOLUME.
5
4
1. ILLSAIDE IS IN LOVE WITH FALAN!
GOTCHA! TRICK QUESTION! DON'T BE MAD!
2. WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ILLSAIDE AND LORD JENED?
1. I WANT THEM TO BE LOVERS!
2. PLEASE TELL ME THEY'RE NOT LOVERS!
FANS WERE ON BOTH SIDES OF THE FENCE! HOWEVER, THE ANSWER IS 3. THEY'RE NOT LOVERS, BUT EVERYONE THINKS THEY ARE!
SORRY ABOUT THE STUPID QUESTIONS! THANKS, ANYWAY!
TO ALL THE FANS WHO ANSWERED THE QUIZ...

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USA $9.99

VAMPIRE GAME™

When the disguised Duzell and Ishtar visit the kingdom of Ci Xeneth and discover an unusual collection of love affairs, plots for war, hidden identities and the inhumane treatment of monsters, they must temporarily put aside their mission to find Phelios. In the mayhem that ensues, will Duzell say, "I do" to Illsaide?

Included in this volume is a bonus comic, "The Sun and the Moon," in which we learn about Darres' background.

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